



St Mary's CofE Primary School

Parent Newsletter

March 2024

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Easter dates

We have a programme of Easter events taking place in the final week of term. The key dates are below and further information is on the following page.

Monday 18th March: Inspire Easter Assembly (2.00)

Tuesday 19th March: Encourage Easter Assembly (2.00)

Thursday 21st March: Inspire Church Service (2.00)

Friday 22nd March: Encourage Church Service (9.30)

Term dates for the current academic year

Spring term ends: Fri 22nd March

Children return: Tues 9th April (staff training on Mon 8th)

The school is closed on **Thursday 2nd May** for local elections.

Half-term begins: Fri 24th May

Children return: Mon 3rd June

Summer term ends: Thurs 18th July (staff training on Fri 19th)

Term dates for the next academic year

Autumn 1: Tues 3rd Sept 2024 – Fri 25th Oct 2024

Autumn 2: Tues 5th Nov 2024 – Fri 20th December 2024

Spring 1: Tues 7th January 2025 – Fri 14th February 2025

Spring 2: Tues 25th February 2025 – Fri 11th April 2025

Summer 1: Mon 28th April 2025 – Fri 23rd May 2025

Summer 2: Mon 2nd June 2025 – Friday 18th July 2025

The school is closed for staff training on the following days:

-Mon 2nd September 2024 -Monday 4th November 2024

-Monday 6th January 2025 -Monday 24th February 2025

-Monday 21st July 2025

IMPORTANT NOTICE - PARKING

Local residents and parents continue to contact the school expressing concerns that the parking of some parents and carers is both obstructing pavements and could prevent emergency services accessing local homes if needed.

Members of the public can report evidence of this directly to the police. If you wish to do this, you will need a photograph of the alleged breach with a date and time stamp visible. You will then need to do the following:

- 1) Access this website: <https://www.nextbase.com/en-gb/national-dash-cam-safety-portal/>
- 2) Select 'West Midlands Police'.
- 3) Complete the online form

Reports are sent directly to West Midlands Police Central Ticket Office for processing and penalty notices are issued accordingly.

Parents' evenings

Many thanks to all who attended last week. We hope the information shared was useful in supporting your child as we move through the second half of the year.

Fundraising

A huge thank you to all the families who have supported our sponsored read events run by parent and Usborne Books representative, Kirsty Hunt this year. Over £2,190 has been generated in commission which has been spent on new books for school.

Many thanks for your continued support for Friends of St Mary's (FOSM) events. The vast majority of money raised this year will be used to help pay for new climbing equipment on the Frederick Road side of the site. Ideas and costs have been gathered and we hope to make progress on installation in due course.

A prayer

We pray for Reverend Hazel, Father Jacob and everyone at St Mary's Church during this period of Lent and thank them for all of the work they do in our local community.

Dear God,

Help us learn how to carry the teachings of Jesus into our daily lives. Give us the courage to stand up for the things that we know to be right. Help us to be confident and trusting in our quest to lead good lives.

Amen

Leave in term time

A reminder that the school can only authorise leave in term time in exceptional circumstances such as family emergencies. Requests made on the basis of convenience such as availability of flights abroad and/or the cost of accommodation cannot be granted as they do not meet the criteria the school is required to follow.

New arrivals

We have heard happy news from members of staff who began maternity leave recently with Mrs Precious-Li and Miss Johnson both celebrating the arrival of daughters. Parents and babies are all doing well and we look forward to seeing them soon.

Safeguarding

The school takes its safeguarding duty seriously and if you have any concerns about the safety or well-being of a child, then you must contact the school or the Birmingham Children's Advice Service on 0121-303-1888 in confidence.



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Easter Bonnet and Easter Garden Competitions 2024

Next month we will be running our traditional Easter Bonnet and Easter Garden competitions.

The Easter Bonnet competition is open for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children and the 'Create an Easter Garden' competition open for children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

All you need to do is send your child's creation into school on the day of their Easter assembly (see below) with parents and carers invited to these. An overall winner will be chosen from each class with a prize given to them.

-Inspire (Monday 18th March at 2.00): 6K, 5M, 4D, 3B, 2F, 1S, RK

-Encourage (Tuesday 19th March at 2.00): 6W, 5B, 4G, 3O, 2P, 1H, RW

Good Luck!
